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Page 1 of 2

25 January 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with Senator Richard B. Russell -  
23 January 1962

1. At Mr. McCone's request, John S. Warner met with Senator Richard B. Russell (D., Ga.) and acquainted him with the recent successful flight of the U-2 over Communist China. I indicated the air fields that had been spotted and the ground-to-ground missile range. I indicated further that the ChiComs were aware of the flight and had scrambled fighters. Senator Russell was most interested in this and was appreciative at being informed. He then asked when the follow-on to the U-2 would be ready for action, and I stated this was still being worked on and, of course, there would have to be some basic decisions with respect to its use. He commented further that he thought we had to get more information on Soviet Russia since the satellite photography was just not good enough. It seemed appropriate at this time to advise him that considerable weight was being placed on satellite photography as the basis for our newest estimates in the Soviet missile field. Also, it was considered that the satellite photography program was very successful although, of course, it had limitations and in many respects relied on previous U-2 photography to gain the maximum from interpretation of the satellite photography. Mr. Russell indicated he was hoping to have a meeting of the CIA Subcommittee in the near future and would be in touch with us. He seemed very appreciative at having been informed.

2. Senator Russell offered his comments concerning the Director's confirmation and indicated that he thought there would

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Page 2 of 2

25X1

25X1 be no real problem on the floor but that he expected possibly  
[REDACTED] and maybe others, to comment  
on the nomination. He opined that [REDACTED] in the end would  
vote in favor of confirmation. He said at most there would only  
be ten or twelve votes against it, if there were any.

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3. Senator Russell offered the opinion that while Drew Pearson did not cause him much trouble from constituents he was a political force in other states because of readers of his column and that the members had to reckon with the situation.

25X1 4. Senator Russell indicated he had not made a decision  
on whether [REDACTED] would be brought onto the CIA Subcom-  
mittee of Senate Armed Services. He pointed out that, while in  
the past membership was based purely on seniority, there was  
no rule on this and he would not make his selection until the  
decision had to be made. On the other hand, he indicated that  
he saw no reason not to, and, therefore, [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] ) would be brought onto the CIA Subcommittee of Senate  
Appropriations.

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SIGNED

JOHN S. WARNER  
Legislative Counsel

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